



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

July 25, 1997

John Catts
Harding Lawson Associates
P. O. Box 6107
Novato, CA 94948

Dear Mr. Catts:

During yesterday's meeting between EPA and the Baldwin Park Operable Unit Steering committee, I committed to send to you several items. Enclosed are: (i) information on three existing groundwater wells; (ii) recommended locations for new groundwater monitoring wells; and (iii) a graph of perchlorate concentration at the Big Dalton treatment unit.

Existing Wells

In our meeting, you noted two locations where it may be possible to collect groundwater samples from existing wells to better characterize the extent of perchlorate contamination: the Decratrend wells and the Sonoco wells.

We agree that analysis of a groundwater sample from the Sonoco Products well for perchlorate would be helpful in determining final locations for the new wells. We recommend that you contact the facility immediately to arrange access. EPA sampled Sonoco well #2 (01902971) in 1990 and 1991, at which time the well produced water for onsite industrial use. The contact person in 1991 was Mr. Ray McCardell at 166 N. Baldwin Park Blvd., in City of Industry, CA (818) 369-6927. A 10/15/92 EPA report indicates that the well is screened from 208' below ground surface (bgs) to 484' bgs.

I do not believe there is any value in analyzing samples from the Decratrend wells for perchlorate. I was unable to locate construction information for the Decratrend site assessment wells, but standard Regional Board practice is to

require screens extending from the water table to no more than 50' below the water table. Most or all of the perchlorate contamination in Subarea 3 is substantially deeper.

Recommended Locations for New Groundwater Monitoring Wells

After further review of the available perchlorate data and groundwater flow information, we believe that up to five multi-depth wells are likely to be needed to characterize the distribution of perchlorate contamination in Subarea 3. The locations of the five wells, tentatively designated MW5-19 through MW 5-23, are as follows:

MW 5-19 - about halfway between existing multiport well MW5-5 and the San Gabriel Valley Water Company (SGVWC) B4 wells, in order to define the extent of perchlorate contamination in the western portion of the area of contamination;

MW 5-20 - approximately 2,000 feet downgradient of the La Puente County wells, along the flow path headed toward the SGVWC B5 wells, in order to define the extent of perchlorate contamination in the eastern half of the area of contamination;

MW 5-22 - approximately 6,000 feet downgradient of the La Puente County wells, along the flow path headed toward the SGVWC B5 wells, in order to further define the extent of perchlorate contamination in the eastern half of the area of contamination;

MW 5-21 - west and north of 5-20, in order to define the extent of perchlorate contamination in the western half of the area of contamination (Note that the SGVWC B4 wells will not help determine the extent of perchlorate contamination; the B4B well is screened from 920 bgs to 1140 bgs and we believe that the B4A well is screened similarly.);

MW 5-23 - west and north of 5-22, in order to further define the extent of perchlorate contamination in the western half of the area of contamination.

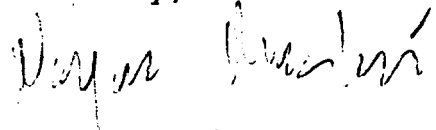
In response to your request to phase the installation of wells where possible, we are willing to consider the installation of wells 5-20 and 5-21 in an initial phase, and the likely installation of additional wells further up and/or downgradient in a second phase.

Perchlorate Concentration at the Big Dalton Treatment Unit

The Department of Health Services has summarized perchlorate concentrations at the Big Dalton treatment facility as a function of the age of the carbon. I prepared the enclosed graph of a portion of the data.

Please contact me at (415) 744-2256 with any questions or comments.

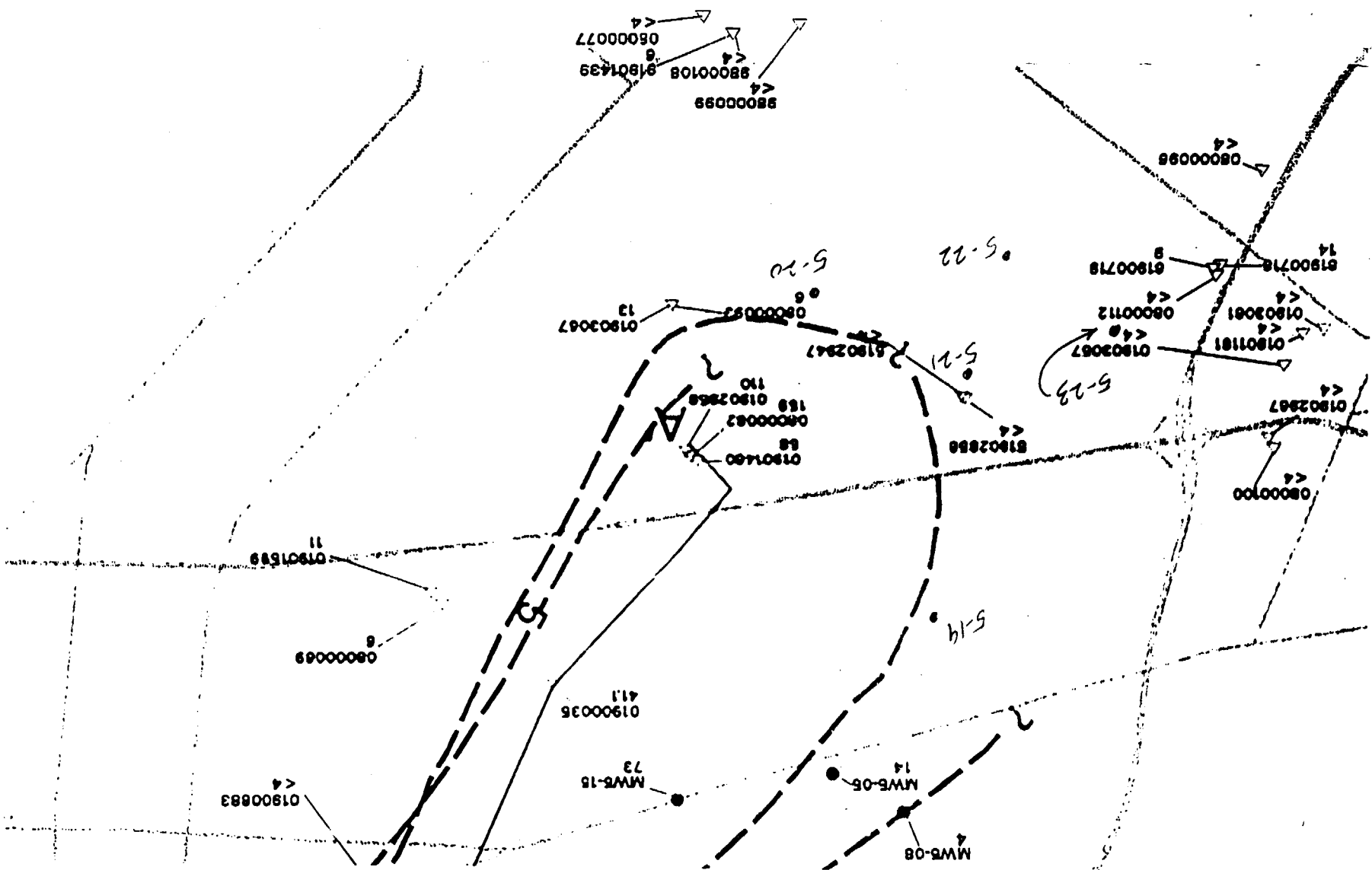
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wayne Praskins", written in a cursive style.

Wayne Praskins
Superfund Project Manager

cc: Baldwin Park Operable Unit Steering Committee (wo/enclosures)

Enclosures



LOCATIO	DATE	AGE (day	INFLU	1/4	1/2	3/4	EFFLUENT
BIG DALT	6/3/97	5 days	40	40	25	5	5
BIG DALT	6/6/97	7 days	38	36	32	19	13
BIG DALT	6/11/97	12 days	36	36	35	31	25
BIG DALT	6/18/97	19 days	36	37	39	40	35
BIG DALT	6/23/97	24 days	39	38	40	41	37

BIG DALTON GAC

